

Appl. No.: 10/696,894
Amdt. dated: 5/30/2006


REMARKS

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this amendment. This Amendment is being filed pursuant to 37 CFR § 41.33 (a) prior to the filing of an appeal brief in order to simplify the issues on appeal. This amendment addresses the claim rejections under 35 USC § 112 set forth in the Official Action, mailed on February 3, 2006. Claim 77 is being amended to overcome the antecedent basis problem for the phrase; "the package". The phrase; "the package"; is being deleted and replaced with "parcel or envelope" for which there is an antecedent basis. With respect to the phrase; "the cost"; in line 15¹, the antecedent basis appears in line 11 of Claim 77. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the amendment and remarks herein overcome the rejection under 35 USC § 112.

Respectfully submitted,

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¹ Paragraph 6 of the Detailed Action, mailed Feb. 3, 2006 indicates line 5. However, the phrase; "the cost" does not appear in line 5 of Claim 77 but does appear on line 15. Thus, the Applicant assumes line 15 was intended.